

ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY

DD/M&S Registry
File *Records*

25 April 1974

TO: Mr. William E. Colby
SUBJECT: Mr. John A. McCone's files

When Mr. McCone retired on 29 April 1965, he ordered two four-drawer safes of his files sequestered. He chose to follow a precedent whereby commissioners of the AEC could sequester their personal papers.

On 23 June 1969, Mr. McCone wrote Walt Rostow of the Lyndon B. Johnson Library as follows:

"Fortunately, Walt Elder, who was my Executive Officer and indispensable right arm during the four years I was Director of Central Intelligence, is now back at Langley. I have released all my papers to him and asked that he contact you and meet with you at your convenience to go over the papers and release copies of any documents of significance to you."

"Concurrently with this review, the files are to be reorganized as I found them in bad shape, and then made available to the Director for future use."

During the period 26 August - 5 September 1969, I selected and sent to Mr. William E. Jordan 72 memoranda for the record covering McCone's relations with President Johnson. A listing was sent to the DCI.

On 19 August 1970, Mr. McCone was interviewed by [redacted] of the Oral History Project at the University of Texas. The transcript rests with me. On 4 October 1972, McCone signed a gift of personal statement form stipulating that the material would not be available for another five years without McCone's express written authorization.

ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY

ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY

2

On 26 February 1965, Mr. McCone was interviewed by Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. in connection with the oral history project of the John F. Kennedy Library. I hold the transcript. In 1970, a representative of the project contacted McCone about further work. Nothing has been heard from them since.—

After I finished writing my draft history of the McCone tenure, I notified Mr. McCone in writing that I had completed all the tasks he had set for me and which are mentioned in the letter to Walt Rostow. I believe to this day that he still thinks there is something dangling, but he has not identified the problem to me.

In any event, his files are now in the archives as DCI files. Unless he has a new problem, I believe you could tell him that you will consider requests for access under Executive Order 11652 just as you would consider requests from any qualified researcher for access to any of our files.

May I offer one suggestion? Let me act as broker. This will save you all the fun of browsing through McCone's files and leave him some right of reclama before you broadcast them. He can yell at me first.

Yes 15/WEC 29 Apr. 1974

No _____

151
WALTER ELDER
Chief, CIA History Staff

ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM			
	UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL	SECRET
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP			
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	Harold Brownman DD/M&S [Redacted]		
2	[Redacted] STAT	4/26	
3	[Redacted]	4/26	
4	STAT		
5			
6			
	ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
	CONCURRENCE	X INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
Remarks: <div style="font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em; margin-top: 10px;"> 2-3. There must be background of which I am not aware, but it would seem this should have gone through you! </div> <div style="font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em; margin-top: 20px;"> Mr Brownman's info brief 5/1/74 [Redacted] </div>			

FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER	
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.	DATE
Walter Elder C/CIA HS [Redacted]	STAT 25 Apr